

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Before the BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION, please add the following new paragraph:

--This application is a Divisional of co-pending Application No. 09/066,921, filed on April 27, 1998, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference and for which priority is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 120.--

Replace the paragraph bridging pages 5 and 6 with the following:

Fig. 3 illustrates optical add/drop 210-1, for example, in greater detail, which is also described, for example, in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/956,807, filed October 23, 1997 (which issued as USP 6,002,503 on October 14, 1999) and incorporated by reference herein. Optical signals at wavelengths λ_1 to λ_4 are fed via optional connector 311 to dielectric filter 313 in a direction indicated by arrow 312. Typically, dielectric filter 313 is configured to drop or select one of wavelengths λ_{1-4} , in this example λ_1 , while reflecting the remaining wavelengths, λ_{2-4} .

Replace the paragraph bridging page 7-8 with the following:

--Add/drop multiplexer 50-4 next supplies λ_0 (DATA50) to transceiver 122, which remodulates the λ_0 (DATA50) at a different wavelength λ_4 , for example. Transceiver 122 is shown in Fig. 4, and described in International Publication No. WO 99/40700, incorporated by reference herein. Transceiver 122 receives λ_0

optical signals output from add/drop multiplexer 50-4 via input port 232. Receiver 414 senses these optical signals and outputs electrical signals in response thereto. Optionally, the electrical signals output from receiver 414 are next encoded by FEC encoder circuit 416, as described, for example, in a U.S. patent application entitled "Remodulating Channel Selectors For WDM Optical Communication Systems" to S.B. Alexander et al., filed October 21, 1997, Serial no. 08/955,058 (which issued as USP 6,233,077 on may 15, 2001) incorporated by reference herein, which supplies encoded electrical signals to laser drive circuit 418. Laser diode 420, constituting part of optical communication path segment 50, is thus modulated by the output of laser driver 418 in accordance with the encoded electrical signals. Alternatively, laser diode 420 can be operated in a continuous wave (CW) mode and the output modulated with a Maczehnder external modulator, as described, for example, in U.S. Patent No. 5,504,609 incorporated herein by reference. Typically, a coupler 424 supplies a relatively small fraction of light output from the laser diode 420 to wavelength control circuit 422 for adjusting the temperature, and thus the wavelength of light output from laser diode 420 to be substantially equal to wavelength λ_4 . The remaining light output from laser diode 420 is supplied to optical add/drop multiplexer 110. As a result, optical signal λ_4 (DATA50) at wavelength λ_4 containing data associated with segment 50 is supplied to fiber segment 124 of WDM ring transmission system 100.--